# Report on the APPPC Regional Workshop on IPPC National Reporting Obligation (NRO) And Use of Information Exchange Portal (IPP) 5-9 September 2016 Beijing, China

#### Summary

The CPM11 adopted the General and Specific IPPC National Reporting Obligation Procedures and developed a new NRO work plan until 2023 based on recommendation and input from the NRO Advisory Group (NROAG). NROs are information provided by the contracting parties that ensure a minimum amount of official phytosanitary information is available to other contracting parties for safe trade, safeguarding food security and protecting the environment from pests of plant and plant products.

The workshop objectives are to update on the new global NRO framework, addressing the request from the contracting parties in ensuring NRO activities are taken, identifying NRO challenges, establishment of national NRO work plans and sensitizing APPPC members to IPPC awareness raising and advocacy needs. Twenty five (25) participants attended the training workshop from 16 countries and experts from FAO Rome and Bangkok.

The workshop introduced the IPP website and registration of OCPs and editors to perform the uploading and editing of their country's information. There are two major categories of NROs. They are categorized as public information and bilateral information. The data entry of the IPP hands-on training was conducted with all the participants based on the reference "The guide to National Reporting Obligations for IPPC Contact Points and IPP editors". Each of them had the chance to upload some of the information they had prepared prior to the workshop. The IPPC secretariat have also developed four e-learning modules to further enhance the capacity for the OCPs and editors in uploading and editing their respective homepage.

There were two main discussions in the workshop related to the improvement of the website for searching, uploading and editing and the other discussion focus on issues, constraints and challenges in fulfilling the NROs. Several suggestions have been made for the improvement of the websites and these feedback are listed in the report for further action by the IPPC Secretariat. In the issues, constraints and challenges discussion, several major constraints have been listed. Several approaches have been suggested including build-up of national networking for collection and collation of data, regular meetings between stakeholders and conduct in country NRO awareness programmes. It was agreed that the NRO e-learning modules could be used as inter-sessional leaning for participants and initial leaning material for other officials in each country.

#### Report

### 1.0 Opening remarks

- Mr. Zhong Tianrun, Deputy Director of National Agro-Technology Extension and 1.1 Service Centre (NATESC), Ministry of Agriculture, China welcomed all participants to the training workshop on IPPC NRO and use of information exchange portal in the Asia Pacific. He extended the MOA appreciation to FAO and APPPC for selecting China as the host of this workshop. China with 1.3 billion peoples gives great emphasis on food security that focus on the activities to increase agriculture production. In the 13th cycle of the 5 years plan, China has established a platform to improve agriculture production based on sustainable approaches. China is also committed to the implementation of the sanitary and phytosanitary measures to protect agriculture and forestry. General Administrative of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) China is the authority in controlling import of agriculture goods has 35,000 staff throughout China to ensure the safety of the agriculture industry from pests and diseases such as Colorado potatoes beetle, mealybugs and fire ants. There are also IPM measures in place for the control of these pests. In pest listing, China has released the catalogue on the important pests including quarantine pests of concern. China also reaffirmed that exchange of information is very crucial in managing pests effectively in the agriculture trade. China MOA will also provide strong support in delivering NRO activities. He wished the successful deliberation and also hoped participants would take the opportunity to endeavour the 300 years history and the modern landscape of Beijing.
- 1.2 Dr Piao Yongfan, on behalf of the ADG and RAP Regional Representative, welcomed all participants from 16 countries and colleagues from the IPPC secretariat in Rome to this IPPC NRO and the use of information exchange portal workshop in Beijing. He informed that the workshop was requested by many countries in Asia and Pacific to justify the full support by the APPPC and FAO. The information exchange is an important activity that has been endorsed by several CPM meetings to facilitate the implementation of IPPC activities especially International Standards on Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) for import and export of agriculture produces. The public portal will ensure transparency and build up the country credibility in ensuring exported produces comply with the importing country requirements. He thanked the organizing committee for the excellent arrangement and wish all participants for a fruitful workshop.
- 1.3 Mr. David Nowell thanked China for their continuous engagement with IPPC Secretariat to conduct training workshop such as this important workshop in exchanging of information activities. He then briefed on the IPPC achievement of the currently IPPC activities in reviewing the vision and organization structure, development of new standard, international communication and resource management. There will be continuous work on country's consultation on developing new ISPM using the new Online Commenting System (OCS). However, this new OCS still has some problems that need to be resolved and this exercise will be complete by the end of the year. The IPPC Secretariat produced several manuals for the implementation of international standard for all members to be used as guidelines in implementing SPS activities in each country. The Capacity Development

Committee will be reorganized to ensure more effective support to members' countries for the development of the implementation plan in plant quarantine activities. The Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE) tool that have been adopted by 130 countries will strengthen the country's implementation and there are training workshops for trainers in progress to support the adoption of the PCE tool. In the e-Phyto programme, a pilot project in selected countries has been implemented with financial support from STDF and will be expanded globally after the pilot project. He also informed that there be a possibility of migrating the IPPC int server to the fao.org server and all will be informed when this is done.

# 2.0 Participants

2.1 There are 25 participants from 16 countries and experts from FAO office in Rome and Bangkok attended the IPPC NRO and use of information exchange portal workshop. The list of participant is in **ANNEX 1**.

### 3.0 Workshop objectives

- 3.1 The National Reporting Obligation Advisory Group (NROAG) recommended new procedures to implement the NRO activities by the contracting parties. To familiarize the changes, IPPC Secretariat has prepared new manual, education material and updated the IPP website to improve the number and quality of reporting. This workshop is one of the activities with the following objectives:
  - i) To inform participants of the newest update of the NRO framework;
  - ii) To address the request from countries in training OCPs and editors to ensure this reporting can be undertaken;
  - iii) To identify NRO challenges for countries to meet their NRO and obtain feedback for IPPC Secretariat to facilitate the implementation;
  - iv) To establish the National NRO work plans; and
  - v) To sensitize APPPC members to IPPC awareness and advocacy needs.
- 3.2 The programme of the workshop is shown in **ANNEX 2**

#### 4.0 National NRO activities progress reports of APPPC members

4.1 Prior to the workshop, each participant was given the instruction to prepare the information for each country NRO activities progress report for presentation and possible uploading this information into the IPP and APPPC websites during the workshop. Each country had presented their prepared progress report based on the instruction and the group realized that there are a lot of information available in each country that can be uploaded into the IPP and APPPC websites for exchanging of information that fulfilled the reporting obligation. The participants were also informed that, by uploading the information into the IPP, the obligation in notifying trading countries has been fulfilled and bilateral notification is no longer necessary under the regulation of the commission.

## 5.0 National Reporting Obligation (NRO)

- 5.1 There are 7 sub-headings in the public NRO category as provided by the IPP Convention. These NROs are required to be reported through the IPP by each contracting party for exchange of information to facilitate trade. They are:
  - i) Designate Official Contact Point (OCP) and update when any changes
  - ii) Description of NPPO and it changes
  - iii) Publish phytosanitary requirements, restrictions and prohibitions
  - iv) Publish specific points of entry for plants and plant products
  - v) Establish and update the lists of regulated pests
  - vi) Reporting the occurrence, outbreak or spread of pest
  - vii) Immediate report on emergency action
- 5.2 In addition to the above public NROs category, the contracting parties are also encouraged to exchange information through the IPP that are categorized as bilateral by the IPP Convention. They are:
  - i) Description of organizational arrangements for plant protection
  - ii) Make available the rationale for phytosanitary requirements, restrictions and prohibitions
  - iii) Inform significant instances of non-compliance with phytosanitary certification
  - iv) Report the result of its investigation regarding significant instances of noncompliance with phytosanitary certification
  - v) Develop and maintain adequate information on pest status and make such information available
  - vi) Cooperate in providing the technical and biological information necessary for pest risk analysis
- 5.3 The reporting of all sub-headings in both categories are of equal weightage in importance for information exchange without ranking them in different level of importance as defined by the FAO Legal Division. Thus, all contracting parties are encouraged to provide the information on all the sub headings of both categories through the IPP as and when the information are available.
- 5.4 The procedure for data entry was presented by running through the country's homepage and reference to the Guide to NROs for IPPC contact points and IPP editors. Firstly, all contracting parties must nominate their respective Official Contact Point (OCP) by filling their information in the downloadable nomination form and having it signed by a person more senior in hierarchy (for example the Chief Secretary to the Ministry of Agriculture or the Minister responsible for agriculture or foreign affairs). The complete form should be sent to the IPPC Secretariat for processing. The IPPC Secretariat will register the OCP and provide an email explanation on how to set up password to the IPP. He/she needs to login and update his/her own profile based on the format provided in the IPP website when necessary and upload the reports. In addition, he/she can also appoint editor(s) who would upload reports on their behalf by filling the form available in the IPP and send it to the

IPPC Secretariat for registration. The nominated editor(s) with the username and password is ready to upload all information for his/her country in the various categories above. The OCPs need to nominate new editor(s) if the current nominated person has retired or transferred from the position.

5.5 The instruction on the uploading and editing of all the categories in the IPP is provided in the Guide to National Reporting Obligations for IPPC contact points and IPP editors in the handout given to each participant and the soft copy is also available in the IPP. Hands-on training for the uploading and editing were conducted during the workshop session.

#### 6.0 Changes to IPPC information exchange since July 2011

- 6.1 In April 2016, the 11<sup>th</sup> Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM 11) has adopted general and specific NRO procedures. They also adopted the NRO work plan until 2023. The adopted procedures were based on the recommendation provided by the NRO Advisory Group (NROAG) during and after a meeting held in 2014 taking into account the IPPC provisions and previous CPM decisions . The general procedures provide the contracting parties to understand the benefit of using electronic media for information exchange and also the ease of exchanging information through this media such as providing pest reporting in assisting trading partners in developing pest risk analysis. The wider coverage of the IPP will ensure that reporting could easily reach to other contacting and non-contacting parties and release the burden to conduct numerous notifications to every single contracting parties that is affected by the decisions or regulations. On the other hands, the specific procedures were developed by the IPPC Secretariat to provide more detailed guidelines for data entry, what information to be reported, how to report, their content and who are responsible to perform the reporting for each country.
- 6.2 The IPPC Secretariat has also prepared a new NRO manual, education material and update the features in IPP website. It is important for the contracting parties to familiarize with these new changes and also raising their awareness that led to increase in the number and quality of the reporting in the IPP. In assisting country to update their country's reporting, the IPPC Secretariat has embarked in sending automatic reminders to the OCP emails at a scheduled time frame between 3-12 months depending on the sub-heading of the two categories that required to be updated. For example update on OCP profile, the reminder will be sent to the OCP every 3 months starting from July 2016 because this category needs to be up to date at all times. For IPP editors, the automatic reminder will only be sent once a year. The NROAG also further recommended awareness raising, that is why the IPPC Secretariat started the publication of a newsletter every month to update IPP reporting activities and provide e-leaning material on NRO for contacting parties to gather or renew their knowledge. In 2015, the IPP data migrated to new software for more flexibility and introduction of more simplified data entry. One day training on NRO was conducted during the 2015 CPM to create awareness on NRO among the senior offices who attended the meeting.

#### 7.0 Update NRO statistics – general increase in information update

- 7.1 The activities of NRO was recorded for more than 10 years. However only recently, NRO was an important component under the IPPC information exchange programme that needs greater support and emphasis to ensure contracting parties can meet their obligations. On average there is a steady increase of 2-50 percent in NRO submission in the IPP resulting from more contracting parties were trained in understanding and how to meet their NRO. There are 3,456 reports with the most numbers of report available in the IPP on pest reports (509) and legislation (383). However, the least report available in the IPP are pest status (31), organizational arrangement for plant protection (29), rationale for phytosanitary requirements (23) and emergency action (23).
- 7.2 In Asia, the number of OCP never logged in from their registration date is 8 percent. However, in 2015, 40 percent of the OCP did not login for the whole year. For editors, 25 percent have never logged-in to the IPP and in 2015, 33 percent have not logged-in to update their country information. Overall, Asia is the most active region in updating their information in the IPP and hope the workshop will encourage more update in future.

#### 8.0 Pest reporting

- 8.1 During the first meeting of the NROAG it was agreed that every year the NRO activities will be dedicated to encourage contracting parties to update on specific NRO subheading. In 2015, NRO activities had focussed on OCP to be aware of NRO and increasing their activities in general. The period April 2015 to March 2016, the NRO activities had focussed on the updating of the function of the National Plant Protection Organization subheading (NPPO Description). These two dedicated campaigns have raised awareness and contributed to the increase of reporting of both areas by the contracting parties. Since CPM 11, the NRO activities are dedicated to pest reporting the NRO Year of Pest reporting will last from April 2016 to March 2017. The pest reporting focus on providing general information about pest reporting, related standards and recommendations, technical advice for IPP editors, statistical information and the latest development in this area. The main objective is to increase general awareness to ensure an increase in number and a better reporting by the contracting parties.
- 8.2 Pest reporting may be difficult information to be reported in the IPP due to the linkage with trade, but without proper reporting of pest incursion by the NPPO, it may also lead to severe impacts on trade in the longer term. This is due to the source of information could come from interception or scientific journal in relation to the incursion of the pest. By providing the report early, the report could attract experts and funding to work on the pest for containment and eradicate the incursion in the reported country. In addition, the reporting will also provide the cooperation among contracting parties towards identification of phytosanitary risk, mitigation to avoid spread and prevent the introduction of pests of plants.

8.3 A detailed discussion on how to upload a new pest reporting using the Guide to National Reporting Obligations for IPP Contact Points and IPP editors. The pest reporting format and content is based on ISPM 17 pest reporting and also pest status reporting as in ISPM 8. Mostly, pest reporting is related to new incursion of pest and pest status is report on endemic pest that outbreak have occurred.

#### 9.0 Recommendation in improving the IPP

- 9.1 Participants of the workshop suggested following possible improvements for the IPP:
  - a. Navigation on the IPP:
    - i. The mobile format needs to be improved so the all navigation panel/bar is visible including the calendar;
    - ii. The new home page has too much information, confusing and some of the old key links are not obvious to locate. It is now difficult to find commonly used information e.g. NROs. They also noted that the old page was much easier to use;
    - iii. The IPP now appears too much news centric and the news are more focused on person or people rather than focused on subject/technical information;

#### b. Pest reporting:

- i. There should be an option to enter data in draft mode and not visible to public users. Although, the present format on "Status" has draft/published selection but it should be made more explicit for the users such as the word "Draft" could change to preview and/or improve the explanation appearing next to a box such as "With draft chosen you will be able to see your report in a preview mode";
- ii. The format box for reporting "Nature of immediate or potential danger" has to make more explicit link with ISPM 17, the box should indicate that the pest is already regulated or not. It is recommended that there should be an added explanation next to the box such as "According to ISPM 17, pest reporting should indicate the pest is already regulated or quarantine pest in your country or not".
- iii. If pest report status box chosen as "draft", only one (1) file can be attached to the report. However, if "published" is selected, there will be no limit on the number of file could be attached. Can this option also be available in the "Draft" selection?
- iv. In the search option, could search options as those available in CABI compendium be available in IPP e.g. common name, host, commodity, date etc.?
- v. Google map is not available in China and what can be done to deal with this situation.

#### c. Display of data:

- i. In the web panel on the left corner when a report is displayed a word "Keywords" appears even no keywords are chosen and is aligned with attachments/files added to the report. This is confusing for users. Keywords should not appear on the left if no keywords are chosen or the line should be blank;
- ii. It would be useful to link pest names to factsheets, PRAs, etc. This will add value to national information that has been uploaded;
- iii. It was suggested to add all pest reports automatically to this area.

#### d. Brief news:

- News should be carefully selected to avoid any misunderstanding such as news which has been promoted by the IPPC could potentially lead to trade disputes.
   If this happens, no contracting parties will volunteer to provide any brief news to be added in the IPP;
- ii. Need to follow FAO guidelines e.g. do NOT publish news that lead to promoting of specific chemical for certain company;
- iii. It was noted that a brief report should state the source/author so that the users can judge whether or not they want to read the article/news in more detail.

#### e. Forms:

- i. Help text in forms should be in red and bold because presently, users are not reading it;
- ii. There is a need to revisit how to input pest information in separate forms as most of the information are related to each other such as pest reporting, pest status and emergency action. There are also a great potential for duplication with key information in each reporting does not have obvious differences e.g. information on emergency action and pest reporting.

## 10.0 NRO e-learning

10.1 The scripts for e-learning on NROs modules have been developed but are still in the process of development before they can be made available to users. Presently, the modules consist of 4 lessons and they are: Lesson 1: Getting to know NROs, Lesson 2: IPPC Official Contact Points, Lesson 3: Pest reporting, and Lesson 4: Pest reporting for data entry and creating a pest report on the IPP. The complete modules are provided in the handout during the workshop.

#### 11.0 APPPC Website

11.1 The APPPC website is an information exchange portal for the APPPC members to exchange information on plant protection in 5 different sub-headings. The sub-headings are Plant Protection, Plant Quarantine, Pest Surveillance, Pest Management and Pesticide Management. It is an integral part of Asia and Pacific Plant Protection Commission's (APPPC)

activities to promote exchange information that is not available in the IPP portal. The website provides effective and efficient platform to access and exchange of the above information more efficiently and wider coverage to members without navigating into numerous country websites for these specific information.

- 11.2 The website is an automatic cross-link with the IPP on plant quarantine matters and members could update their information in the IPP via the APPPC website. However, presently after two IPP data migrations, the passwords for OCP and editors are not the same for both IPP and APPPC websites. The APPPC home page address at <a href="www.apppc.org">www.apppc.org</a> has similar architecture to the IPP. The participants were guided during the workshop to conduct the editing and uploading in the APPPC website using the reference "brief guide on how to upload plant protection information via the country dashboard on the new platform of the APPPC website" in which the soft copy of the guide is available in the APPPC website.
- 11.3 The hands-on practical to upload and edit the country home page in the APPPC website could not be conducted due to all the username and password have expired and problem in the cross-link with IPP. The update and upload in the APPPC website will only be possible once the username and password are resolved and will be done as in the action plan develop for each country.

#### 12. 0 Issues and challenges in meeting NROs in IPP and APPPC websites

12.1 In discussing the NPPOs Challenges in meeting their NROs in the IPP and APPPC websites. The following points have been raised by the participants:

Country	Challenges raised		
Laos	a. Invitations to IPPC meetings need to be targeted to the subject experts as the director often nominates the wrong person for training. This will reduce the impacts of the training		
Republic of Korea	<ul> <li>a. Difficult to sustain the delivery of NRO uploading and editing over these years and after the workshop because of limited support by the top management. There is need to develop more consistency approaches to ensure sustainable activities.</li> <li>b. Collection of information at national level is a challenge due to involvement of many different stakeholders such surveillance activities are conducted by different agencies and data difficult to collect, collate, and verify.</li> </ul>		
DPR Korea	<ul> <li>a. The naming system in DRP Korea for identification of pests are different from the nomenclature recognized internationally. There is a need to be standardized and should be done internally in DPR Korea.</li> <li>b. The duration in getting the clearance to publish pest outbreak report internationally from the appropriate committees will cause</li> </ul>		

	delay in publishing in the IPP and if not approved, could not be published.
Japan	a. Need to improve the understanding of NROs to enhance the implement NROs activities in Japan.
Indonesia	<ul> <li>a. The quarantine unit is a different body to legislation unit. Thus, needs to have regular meetings between agencies for data collection at least 3 times a year.</li> <li>b. Conduct NRO training at least once a year for IPP editors to ensure IPP will be updated.</li> </ul>
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China	a. Difficult to collect data on pest from all the regions as it is a diverse country with a range of crops. Thus, the collection and verification of the data is a big challenge.
	b. There are 3 national bodies dealing with plant health and more coordination /cooperation is needed to collect the information.
Cambodia	a. Limited resources from government including experts on pests that have direct impact on the ability to meet NROs.
	<ul> <li>b. Identification of pests is a problem, coordination and appropriate technical expertise for a range of officers/agencies/stakeholders is a challenge.</li> </ul>
	c. The national legislation needs to be/is being updated.
Bangladesh	a. Internal cooperation is needed between different agencies/units to ensure data and information is available to upload in IPP
	b. Awareness training on NRO should be conducted to officers, agencies and Ministries that are related to provide data for NRO
	c. There is not adequate national database to collect information for NRO reporting,
	d. Although, there is an increased focus on PRA but the capacity to conduct PRA is limited
	e. There are new legislation and regulations are about to be published and will be uploaded in the IPP.
Myanmar	a. The implementation of the IPPC is relatively new and there are many needs before NRO data can be collected for publications.
	b. There is a need to undertake a national assessment and systematically develop national capacity on NRO and request FAO to provide assistance.
	c. There is no appropriate legislative or regulatory basis for phytosanitary measures and associated actions.
	d. The list of regulated pests is in need of updating.
	e. Cooperated with customs on imported products needs improvement as it is a challenge to control imported products. The regulation on imports are very weak and also limited capacity

	available to manage pest incursions and epidemics.	
	There is a significant shortage of plant health experts.	
Malaysia	<ul> <li>a. No major problem but it is a challenge to meet all phytosanitary needs of the country.</li> <li>b. Coordination and cooperation for data collection to feed into pest reports needs improvement.</li> <li>c. Limited staff available to collect information and data management</li> <li>d. Retired officers are not readily replaced by new ones resulting the experience and expertise of these officers are not being replaced</li> </ul>	
	appropriately.	
Pakistan	a. Understanding about NROs is there, but national information to be uploaded in IPP is not available. All provinces have the authority in dealing with export and import as the national system has been de-centralized. There is a lack of phytosanitary awareness, particularly relating to global issues. As a result there are problems	
	<ul> <li>with exports to EU.</li> <li>b. Electronic data exchange with the customs has been developed resulting in improve cooperation in import and export management including data collection.</li> <li>c. Many pests introduced incidence were from import commodities.</li> </ul>	
	<ul><li>However, there are not enough data available to associate these incursion.</li><li>d. Climate change impact has created a big challenge to agriculture such as spells of drought and pest outbreaks and needs to update in IPP.</li></ul>	
	e. There will be more land border entry points being established along the Iran border and will be reported in the IPP.	
Philippines	a. Data for pest reporting needs to be collected from another Department and they in turn need to gather from regional stations. This process will delay reporting in the IPP or sometimes data not available.	
	<ul><li>b. Their main focus is on surveillance of three (3) major crops (rice, corn and cassava). Thus, data collection for other crops is not available including pest list for market access.</li><li>c. Nature of country has many islands, this makes surveillance</li></ul>	
	activities more challenging to cover all areas with the already heavy work load in the regions.  d. Regional officers do not want to read documents and emails to	
	assist in providing data for the NROs.	

Sri Lanka	<ul> <li>a. Human resources is limited for data collection and managing illegal imports and exports of agriculture commodities. However, there is good cooperation between the available resources for NROs.</li> <li>b. There are many requests on pest data, pest status, etc. but the surveillance data is difficult to collect with the current resources in the country.</li> <li>c. Have been selected to participate in ePhyto pilot project by IPPC that will provide positives effect on market access, trade and certification.</li> </ul>
Thailand	<ul> <li>a. General phytosanitary awareness is good.</li> <li>b. They know how to collect pest-related information nationally, but permission is needed from a Committee of 25 people to upload data on the IPP. Difficult to get an agreement especially on pest report as they don't want to effect trade.</li> <li>c. Transparency needs to be improved and the benefit of meeting NROs understood.</li> </ul>
Timor-Leste	<ul><li>a. Trying to fulfill all NRO requirements but many challenges including economic, infrastructure and human resources.</li><li>b. Permission to attend international meetings is difficult.</li><li>c. Want to adhere to IPPC.</li></ul>
Viet Nam	<ul> <li>a. Main problem is the use of language. They have many regulations, so difficult to translate into English.</li> <li>b. Pest data collection is complex and not easy.</li> <li>c. Need to re-nominate the IPP editor.</li> <li>d. Phytosanitary awareness raising needs to be addressed.</li> </ul>

- 12.2 Based on the issue and challenges to fulfill the NRO of the contracting parties, the meeting concluded that the following actions should be considered:
  - i. Phytosanitary awareness raising needs to be addressed in most countries to a greater or lesser degree at various levels i.e. from national and regional agencies to senior decision makers in government across a number of ministries. Global seminar to raise awareness could be consider to ensure more effective delivery.
  - ii. The improvement and/or establishment of phytosanitary networks within a country for the collection, collation and verification of NRO data to enable reporting can be done appropriately.
  - iii. Limitations on available resources are negatively impacting for most countries ability to deliver on NROs. However, the crucial impact is at the level of data collections and subsequent processing before publication.

- iv. There is a great variation in capacity to meet NROs in the Asian region. While some countries have limited NRO capacity, the capacity does exist in other countries to provide technical assistance and actively support capacity building activities. There is also potential for FAO to play a facilitation role and support key activities for which they have a comparative advantage e.g. the assessment of national phytosanitary capacity and the development of a national legislative and regulatory framework. South-South Cooperation will also be important in the region to increase NRO capacity in the region as a whole.
- v. There has been a substantial improvement of regional capacity to address NROs in most countries in the past 5 10 years. To this end countries noted the important role of the IPPC regional NRO workshops organized by the APPPC, while providing the opportunity to also address additional reporting obligations under the APPPC. It was also noted by a number of countries that while the NRO e-Learning course will provide much needed inter-sessional NRO capacity building, this does not have the capacity to replace face-to-face discussions and learning from each other.
- vi. A mindset remains in a number of Asian countries where it is believed that the public release of certain NRO information has the ability to negatively impact on trade / market access. To optimize trade facilitation, this perception needs to be addressed both within countries, regionally and globally.
- vii. The core national capacities of phytosanitary surveillance, diagnostics and data management need to be urgently addressed on a global scale as without this national capacity, meeting many NROs is not possible. To this end the APPPC has been addressing this for a number of years and while good progress is being made, more needs to be done by a broad range of stakeholders including the donors, IPPC Secretariat, FAO and the APPPC.

#### 13.0 NRO national action 2020

13.1 All the participants were given a template of NRO National Action Plan to fill in for edit and upload information into the IPP and APPPC websites to ensure continuality in preforming the obligation as agreed in the previous CPM meeting. The complete national action plan after discussion with the OCP should be sent to FAO RAP for the purpose of monitoring the progress from time to time.

# 14.0 Closing remarks

14.1 Dr Piao Yongfan thanked the Ministry of Agriculture, China for the excellent organization of the meeting and the members of organizing committee for their hospitality and service to all the participants. He also requested the National Action Plans on updating and uploading new information be sent to the APPPC secretariat within next week for compilation and monitoring the progress made by each country. All issues and challenges raised during the workshop need to be resolved for a better progress in the NRO activities.

He also hoped that the Asia and Pacific region will be the leading pioneer in fulfilling the obligation. Finally, he wished all the participants a safe journey back home.



#### ANNEX 1

# **List of Participants**

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# ANNEX 2

# **Workshop Programme**

Timing	Subject	Notes	Presenter	
	Monday 5 September 2016			
08:30 - 09:15	Registration		Dr Piao	
09:15	Welcome Remarks: Host institution		Yongfan	
09:30	Key Note Address: FAO			
10:00	Update on IPPC achievements	We try and do this in all workshops	Mr David Nowell	
10:15 - 10:30	Coffee break including a group photo			
10:30 - 11:00	Workshop Objectives and Output		Mr David Nowell	
11:00 - 12:30	Introduction of Participants (including brief summary of experience with using the IPP)	2 minutes/person only – no power point	Country	
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch break			
14:00 - 15:15	National NRO Activities Progress Reports of APPPC members (2011-2016)	Template to be provided – power point expected	Country	
15:15 - 16:00	Coffee break			
16:00 - 17:30	continued: National NRO Activities Progress Reports of APPPC members (2011-2016)		Country	
	Tuesday 6 September 201	6		
08:30 - 09:00	Introduction to Information Exchange/NROs under the IPPC		Mr David Nowell/ Ms Dorota Buzon	
09:00 - 09:30	Changes to IPPC information exchange since July 2011		Mr David Nowell/ Ms Dorota Buzon	
09:30 - 10:15	NRO statistics for APPPC countries		Mr David Nowell	

10:00 - 10:15	Coffee break		
10:15 - 10:45	Planned NRO-related activities to 2020.		Mr David Nowell
10:45 - 12:30	NRO on-line training material		Ms Dorota Buzon
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch break		
14:00 - 14:30	NRO Year of Pest Reporting		Mr David Nowell
14:30 - 15:45	Training for IPP Contact Points & IPP Editors: NROs and IPP data entry.		Country
15:45 - 16:00	Coffee break		
16:00 - 17:30	Continued: Training for IPP Contact Points & IPP Editors: NROs and IPP data entry.		Country
	Wednesday 7 September 2016		
08:30 - 10:00	continued: Training for IPP Contact Points & IPP Editors		Country
10:00 - 10:15	Coffee break		
10:15 - 12:00	continued: Training for IPP Contact Points & IPP Editors		Country
12:00 - 12:30	The importance of networks		Mr David Nowell
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch break		
14:00 - 14:30	Towards the IYPH in 2020		Mr David Nowell
14:30 - 15:00	IPPC Communication and Advocacy		Mr David Nowell
15:00 - 15:15	Coffee break		
15:15 - 16:00	Identification of NRO challenges and goals for the region for the next 2-4 years.		Mr David Nowell
16:00 - 17:30	Development of national NRO work plans towards 2020.		Country
Thursday 8 September 2016			
	Field visit		

Friday 9 September 2016			
08:30 - 10:00	APPPC Website (introduction and		Mr Yusof
	guidelines)		Othman
10:00 - 10:15	Coffee break		
10:15 - 11:30	Upload country update information on		Mr Yusof
	APPPC website (Practical exercise on APPPC		Othman
	website)		
11:30 - 12:00	Identify possible improvements in the IPPC		Dr Piao
	website - gaps, needs and priorities.		Yongfan
12:00 - 12:20	Any other business		
12:20 - 12:30	Closing Ceremony		Dr Piao
			Yongfan